



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mitsuzou Nogami et al

Serial No.: 09/622,615

Group Art Unit: 1745

Filed: August 18, 2000

Examiner: Julian A. Mercado

For: NICKEL ELECTRODE FOR ALKALI STORAGE BATTERY, METHOD OF PRODUCING NICKEL ELECTRODE FOR ALKALI STORAGE BATTERY, AND ALKALI STORAGE BATTERY

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 29, 2002

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of March 27, 2002, requiring restriction between two alleged inventions under the provisions of 35 USC § 121.

In the Action, the examiner has made a restriction requirement between the inventions of **Group I** drawn to product (claims 1-5, 11-18, and 25-26); and **Group II** drawn to the process of making (claims 6-10 and 19-24).

Applicants hereby provisionally elect **Group I**, that is, claims 1-5, 11-18 and 25-26 for examination on the merits in this application. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

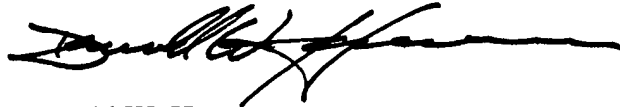
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In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this response.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald W. Hanson", written over a horizontal line.

Donald W. Hanson
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 27,133

Atty. Case No. 000774
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930
DWH:nk